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**JUN 14 2006**

Express Mail Label No. EV786079928US  
Patent  
Docket No. 393032044000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
**Michihiko SASAKI**

Serial No.: 10/802,575

Filing Date: March 16, 2004

For: **STRING-INSTRUMENT TYPE  
ELECTRONIC MUSICAL  
INSTRUMENT**

Examiner: J. Donels

Group Art Unit: 2837

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS 313(c)  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the foreign documents are also submitted herewith. Also enclosed is a copy of the Japanese office action (including its English translation) from which these documents were cited. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- With the RCE application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.

la-863890

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Director to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 393032044000

Dated: June 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By M.A.  
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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	10/802,575
				Filing Date	March 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Michihiko SASAKI
				Art Unit	2837
				Examiner Name	J. Donels
				Attorney Docket Number	393032044000

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
1.	US-6,379,244		04-30-2002	Sagawa et al.	
2.	US-6,461,239		10-08-2002	Sagawa et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
3.	JP-2002-287750		10-04-2002	Yamaha Corp	with English abstract
4.	JP-2002-251182		09-06-2002	Yamaha Corp	with English abstract
5.	JP-2000-350861		12-19-2000	Konami Co. Ltd.	corres. to both US Patents above
6.	JP-05-059388		08-06-1993		partial English translation ✓
7.	JP-05-029094		04-16-1993		partial English translation ✓

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>4</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>5</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature la-863891	Date Considered
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